 a facsimile device provided with a result sending-out ~~medium sending out a~~
communication result to an external terminal,
an external terminal provided with a display medium displaying and outputting the
communication result sent from said facsimile device, and
a result monitoring medium executing an operation of sending out a result of the
communication performed by said facsimile device to said external terminal periodically.

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 23, 2002. Claims 1-18, with claims 1-11 being the independent claims, are pending and presented for examination in this application. By the present Amendment, claim 11 has been amended. It is submitted that no new matter has been added by the present Amendment.

Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,936,743 to Satoh in view of U.S. Patent 5,812,279 to Fukushima et al. Claims 3-5 were rejected under Section 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh and Fukushima et al. and in view of U.S. Patent 6,476,935 to Fujino. Claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly unpatentable over Fukushima et al. Claims 8-10 were rejected under Section 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Fukushima et al. and Fujino. Claim 11 was rejected under Section 102(e) as allegedly unpatentable over Satoh.

Independent claim 1 relates to a facsimile monitoring system which includes a facsimile

and a personal computer. The facsimile has an interface which can be connected with the personal computer. The personal computer is connected with the facsimile and includes monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of the facsimile. When a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel of the personal computer.

Satoh, as understood by Applicant, relates to a facsimile apparatus which includes a printer for receiving and printing facsimile information and a terminal apparatus remote from the facsimile apparatus for transmitting data to and receiving data from the facsimile apparatus. The facsimile apparatus includes a data transmit device for transmitting data related to a condition of a public telephone line to which the facsimile apparatus is connected, in response to a request from the terminal (see Abstract of Satoh).

Fukushima et al., as understood by Applicant, relates to a facsimile machine which includes a reading device for reading an original image to be transmitted, a memory for storing the image data from the reading device, a first transmission device for transmitting the stored image data to an external device, a second transmission device for transmitting the stored image data from the reading device to an external device in parallel with the reading operation of the reading device, and a controller for activating one of the first and second transmission devices based on the remaining amount of storage capacity in the memory (see Abstract of Fukushima et al.).

Fujino, as understood by Applicants, relates to a data communication apparatus and method in which a plurality of line control means, upon simultaneous transmission of identical data to a plurality of destinations, independently transmit data with reference to transmission management means commonly used by the line control means. The transmission management

means manages an image file and includes a table for managing destinations. (See Abstract of Fujino)

The Office Action acknowledges that Satoh “does not disclose including monitoring software for monitoring a state of memory transmission file of said facsimile” (Office Action, page 2). In addition, Applicant submits that Fukushima et al. and Fujino do not disclose a personal computer connected with the facsimile and including monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of said facsimile. The Office Action, however, contends that Fukushima et al. “discloses including monitoring software for monitoring a state of memory transmission file of said facsimile (Figs. 8A-8D, col. 7, lines 29-41).” Applicant respectfully disagrees. ✓

Fukushima et al. discloses checking a remaining amount of memory when a memory transmission is taking place and canceling the memory transmission if the remaining amount of memory is less than a constant amount (Fukushima et al., Col. 7, lines 39-35). FIGS. 8A to 8D of Fukushima et al. show the contents of the transmission checking routine of FIG. 6. FIG 6 shows a flow chart of operations of a communication control CPU included in a control portion of a facsimile apparatus (Fukushima et al., Col. 8, lines 42-43; Col. 6, lines 14-15 and Col. 3, lines 64-67). (Fukushima et al., however, fails to teach or suggest a personal computer connected with the facsimile and including monitoring software for monitoring a state of a memory transmission file of said facsimile, as recited in claim 1 of the present application, for example.

Further, Satoh, Fukushima et al. and the other cited art fail to provide any suggestion to combine the memory monitoring utilized by the control portion of the facsimile apparatus of Fukushima et al. with the facsimile apparatus of Satoh. Indeed, Fukushima et al. does not include a personal computer at all.

It is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify Satoh wherein the facsimile control system would include some form of facsimile performance notification via display of memory history as suggested in the Office Action.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons set forth above. It is further submitted that independent claims 2, 3, 4 and 5 are patentable over the cited art for at least similar reasons.

The Office Action also acknowledges that Satoh does not disclose “when a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel of said personal computer immediately thereafter” (Office Action, page 3). Applicant submits that Fukushima et al. and Fujino, like Satoh, do not disclose displaying a message on a display panel of said personal computer.

The Office Action states that Fukushima et al discloses “when a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel of said personal computer immediately thereafter (Fig. 5; Fig. 9B, col. 9, line 45-61).” Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Fig. 5 of Fukushima et al. is a diagram which shows contents displayed at the display portion of the operation panel shown in FIG. 2 (Fukushima et al., Col. 2, lines 48-49). FIG. 2 of Fukushima et al. is a top plan view showing the operation panel of the facsimile machine shown in FIG. 1 (Fukushima et al., Col. 2, lines 40-41). Fukushima et al. further discloses displaying indication h of FIG. 5 (Col. 9, line 53). More specifically, indication h of FIG. 5 is displayed on an operation panel of the facsimile machine.

Fukushima et al, however, fails to show or suggest that when a memory transmission by the facsimile is completed, a message of a completion thereof is displayed on a displaying panel

of said personal computer immediately thereafter, as recited in claim 1 of the present application, for example.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reason mentioned above. It is further submitted that independent claims 2, 6 and 7 are patentable over the prior art for at least similar reasons.

Regarding claim 3, the Office Action states that Fujino discloses “when there exists a file in said facsimile device indicating a communication error, said file of communication error can be deleted using said personal computer (Fig. 5, Col. 10, lines 48-62).”

Fujino discloses that “upon completion of transmission to all the destinations, or upon generation of a deletion request, the image file is deleted after it is confirmed by checking the image file management information that communications via all the lines are complete.” (Fujino, Col. 10, lines 52-57). Fujino fails to teach or suggest, however, that when there exists a file in said facsimile device indicating a communication error, said file of communication error can be deleted using said personal computer, as recited in claim 3, for example. In addition, Applicant submits that Satoh and Fukushima et al., like Fujino, fail to teach or suggest such a feature.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons mentioned above. It is also submitted that claim 8 is patentable over the cited art for at least similar reasons.

Regarding claim 4, the Office Actions states that Fujino discloses that “when there exist a file in said facsimile device indicating a communication error, an address of said communication error file and a transmission property thereof can be change from said personal computer said file of communication error can be deleted using said personal computer (Fig. 5, Col. 10, lines 24-

67).”

As noted above, Fujino discloses that “upon completion of transmission to all the destinations, or upon generation of a deletion request, the image file is deleted after it is confirmed by checking the image file management information that communications via all the lines are complete” (Fujino, Col. 10, lines 52-57). Fujino fails to teach or suggest, however, an address of said communication error file and a transmission property thereof can be changed from said personal computer, as recited in claim 4 of the present application, for example. In addition, Applicant submits that Satoh and Fukushima et al fail to teach or suggest such a feature.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons mentioned above. It is also submitted that claims 5, 9 and 10 are patentable over the cited art for at least similar reasons.

Claim 11, as amended herein, relates to a facsimile device monitoring system for monitoring a communication result of a facsimile device from an external terminal. The system includes a facsimile device, an external terminal and a result monitoring medium. The facsimile device is provided with a result sending-out medium sending out a communication result to the external terminal. The external terminal is provided with a display medium displaying and outputting the communication result sent from the facsimile device. The result monitoring medium executes an operation of sending out a result of the communication performed by the facsimile device to the external terminal periodically.

The Office Action states that Satoh discloses a “result monitoring medium executing an operation of sending out a result of the communication performed by said facsimile device to said external terminal periodically (fig. 4, col. 6, line 45-59; col. 7, lines 60-64).” Applicant

respectfully disagrees.

Satoh discloses that a user may confirm the condition of the public telephone line at regular intervals of time, without having to perform a manual operation. The facsimile apparatus can be programmed to automatically continue checking the condition of the public telephone line at predetermined intervals of time in response to a request from the user. The facsimile apparatus can then transmit the condition information when the public telephone line is free, or each time after it has been checked (Satoh, Col. 6, lines 45-54). Satoh further discloses that the system can be arranged so that the report data is automatically sent to the personal computer each time the facsimile apparatus generates a report (Satoh, Col. 7, lines 62-64).

Satoh fails to show or suggest, however, a result monitoring medium executing an operation of sending out a result of the communication performed by said facsimile device to said external terminal periodically, as recited in amended claim 11.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 11 is patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons mentioned above.

Claims 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 for allegedly failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Office Action contends that the phrase "a file treatment medium" included in each of claims 13-16 is not supported by a sufficient antecedent basis. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The file treatment medium treats a file in the memory of the facsimile based on the indication of the indication medium. For example, the file treatment medium may delete a transmission error file designated on the basis of the indication transmitted by the indication medium, from the memory of the facsimile device, such as recited in claim 15 of the present application. The function of the file treatment medium is clearly disclosed, for example, at page

21, line 12 to page 22, line 4 of the present application. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the application provides full support for the phrase "a file treatment medium" as used in claims 13-15.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 13-15 under Section 112.

In light of the remarks and amendments made herein, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-18 are patentable over the cited art.


The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED COPY OF CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Claim 11 has been amended as follows.

11. (Amended) A facsimile device monitoring system for monitoring a communication result of a facsimile device from an external terminal, comprising:

 a facsimile device provided with a result sending-out medium sending out a communication result to an external terminal,

 an external terminal provided with a display medium displaying and outputting the communication result sent from said facsimile device, and

 a result monitoring medium executing an operation of sending out a result of the communication performed by said facsimile device to said external terminal periodically [or per each communication].

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